

REMARKS

Favorable action on the merits is requested.

I. CLAIM STATUS AND AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. In item 3 on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-20 are indicated as allowed if rewritten or amended to overcome the outstanding rejections/objections. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. Claim 1 was objected to.

The specification is amended to include appropriate section headings to conform to U.S. practice. No new matter has been added.

No new matter has been added.

II. CLAIM OBJECTION

Claim 1 was objected to as being a substantial duplicate of claim 2 for the reasons in item 2 on page 2 of the Office Action. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Contrary to the Office's position, claims 1 and 2 are substantial not duplicates of each other, as claim 2 further defines claim 1 by reciting elements not found in claim 1. Specifically, claim 2 further defines claim 1 by reciting "locking means (24, 26)". Also, claim 2 further defines claim 1 by describing the structural relationship of the claim elements both in the "inactive" and the "active"

positions with respect to the locking means. None of these features are recited in claim 1. As such, claims 1 and 2 cannot be substantial duplicates. Therefore, the objection is untenable and should be withdrawn.

If the Examiner disagrees, Applicants will gladly consider a proposal by the Examiner to address the objection.

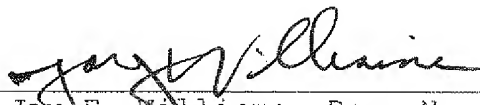
III. CONCLUSION

It is noted that the sole issue in this case is the objection of claim 1. Having fully addressed this issue, the application should be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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